3/14/88 S 3320-2

LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094

Gayle F. Truly, Secretary
JANUARY, 1988

RELEASE DATE:
February 25, 1988

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY JANUARY 1988				REVISED DECEMBER 1987				REVISED JANUARY 1987			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,913.1	1,683.2	229.9	12.0	1,922.4	1,740.1	182.3	9.5	1,956.6	1,673.1	283.5	14.5
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	60.8	54.4	6.4	10.5	61.5	56.5	5.0	8.1	60.7	53.6	7.1	11.7
Baton Rouge 2/	261.2	234.7	26.5	10.1	264.6	243.2	21.4	8.1	263.1	232.1	31.0	11.8
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	69.8	59.9	9.9	14.1	70.6	62.9	7.7	10.9	74.7	59.3	15.4	20.7
Lafayette 4/	97.9	86.7	11.2	11.4	99.0	90.0	9.0	9.1	102.3	85.6	16.7	16.4
Lake Charles 5/	75.8	65.7	10.1	13.3	75.2	67.3	7.9	10.5	75.2	64.2	11.0	14.6
Monroe 6/	68.2	60.3	7.9	11.6	69.9	64.1	5.8	8.3	69.8	61.5	8.3	11.9
New Orleans 7/	591.7	533.8	57.9	9.8	596.0	547.5	48.5	8.1	602.8	534.1	68.7	11.4
Shreveport 8/	166.6	147.1	19.5	11.7	166.0	150.8	15.2	9.1	168.3	145.6	22.7	13.5

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during January was estimated at 1,485,200, a drop of 19,100 workers from December's revised figure but 24,600 higher than the January 1987 figure. The drop in nonmanufacturing employment was centered in the trade segment. Lower employment in nondurable goods was largely responsible for the decrease in manufacturing.

This public document was published at a total cost of $1,079.79. 2,900 copies of this public document were published in this 1st printing at a cost of $1,079.79. The total cost of all printing of this document, including reprints, is $1,079.79. This document was published by the Louisiana Department of Labor, Office of Employment Security, Research and Statistics Unit, P.O. Box 94094, Baton Rouge, La. 70804-9094. Its purpose is to disseminate information pertaining to labor market developments and employment trends under the authority of Part 602.6, Title 20, Chap. V. of the Code of Federal Regulations. It was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change from December 1987	Net Change from January 1987
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.4	84.5	84.0	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Banking	25.0	24.9	25.6	+ 0.1	- 0.6
SERVICES	323.9	325.8	311.9	- 1.9	+12.0
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.8	22.7	20.7	- 0.9	+ 1.1
Personal Services	14.4	14.0	14.4	+ 0.4	0
Business Services	56.8	57.8	54.8	- 1.0	+ 2.0
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.5	9.7	9.5	- 0.2	0
Miscellaneous Repair Services	5.4	5.6	5.2	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Amusement & Recreation Services	8.8	8.8	7.5	0	+ 1.3
Health Services	102.7	102.4	98.7	+ 0.3	+ 4.0
Legal Services	15.3	15.2	14.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Educational Services	24.1	24.4	22.3	- 0.3	+ 1.8
Social Services	18.8	19.0	18.6	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Membership Organizations	25.6	25.8	25.3	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Miscellaneous Services	14.7	14.5	15.1	+ 0.2	- 0.4
GOVERNMENT	311.4	315.2	314.4	- 3.8	- 3.0
Federal	36.1	36.2	35.8	- 0.1	+ 0.3
State and Local	275.3	279.0	278.6	- 3.7	- 3.3
State	95.8	99.5	96.7	- 3.7	- 0.9
Local	179.5	179.5	181.9	0	- 2.4

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$461.07	$460.31	$447.43	42.3	42.7	41.2	$10.90	$10.78	$10.86
Durable Goods	409.49	416.63	404.91	41.7	42.6	40.9	9.82	9.78	9.90
Lumber & Wood Products	358.39	358.46	335.62	43.6	44.2	42.7	8.22	8.11	7.86
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	363.67	369.33	343.38	41.0	40.9	38.8	8.87	9.03	8.85
Fabricated Metal Products	423.79	450.74	410.06	43.6	45.3	41.8	9.72	9.95	9.81
Machinery, ex. Electrical	393.33	403.20	389.57	42.8	44.9	41.4	9.19	8.98	9.41
Electric & Electronic Equip.	560.12	495.11	549.46	41.8	38.5	41.5	13.40	12.86	13.24
Transportation Equipment	417.12	444.64	432.12	39.5	41.4	39.0	10.56	10.74	11.08
Nondurable Goods	504.61	496.91	483.48	42.8	42.8	41.5	11.79	11.61	11.65
Food & Kindred Products	298.62	314.84	288.42	39.5	41.7	38.1	7.56	7.55	7.57
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	216.28	201.85	195.41	38.9	37.8	36.8	5.56	5.34	5.31
Paper & Allied Products	550.09	588.99	549.12	41.8	43.5	42.7	13.16	13.54	12.86
Printing & Publishing	392.70	394.11	375.35	38.5	38.6	37.2	10.20	10.21	10.09
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	706.86	707.38	684.10	45.9	45.2	44.8	15.40	15.65	15.27
Petroleum & Coal Products	791.12	714.98	687.78	49.6	46.7	45.1	15.95	15.31	15.25
Petroleum Refining	808.88	726.03	705.82	49.9	46.6	45.1	16.21	15.58	15.65
MINING	559.77	546.62	550.70	47.0	46.6	44.7	11.91	11.73	12.32
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	511.81	517.57	485.61	40.3	39.6	40.4	12.70	13.07	12.02
BANKING	260.51	263.47	262.07	37.7	37.8	37.6	6.91	6.97	6.97

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 121,700 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 90,100 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 01 88				REVISED 12 87			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	22,600	19,175	3,425	15.1	22,500	19,675	2,825	12.5
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	9,525	8,175	1,350	14.1	9,450	8,400	1,050	11.1
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	6,150	4,175	1,975	32.2	5,875	4,475	1,400	23.7
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	15,250	12,050	3,200	20.9	14,775	12,425	2,350	15.9
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	14,375	12,625	1,750	12.1	14,550	13,150	1,400	9.6
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,425	5,575	850	13.1	6,400	5,750	650	10.1
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,225	3,550	675	15.9	4,175	3,650	525	12.7
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,350	3,775	575	13.2	4,350	3,925	425	9.6
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,275	3,200	1,075	25.2	4,125	3,325	800	19.3
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	7,975	7,100	875	10.9	7,975	7,300	675	8.6
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	9,950	8,000	1,950	19.6	9,775	8,575	1,200	12.4
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	12,725	11,100	1,625	12.7	12,675	11,425	1,250	9.9
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,275	3,200	1,075	25.3	4,050	3,325	725	17.9
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	8,375	7,350	1,025	12.4	8,600	7,775	825	9.6
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	12,650	10,775	1,875	14.8	12,575	11,125	1,450	11.6
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,225	6,650	1,575	19.1	8,350	7,225	1,125	13.6
COLFAX (GRANT)	6,700	5,700	1,000	14.9	6,675	5,925	750	11.4
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	25,000	20,725	4,275	17.1	25,100	21,800	3,300	13.2
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	11,450	9,400	2,050	17.9	11,325	9,750	1,575	14.0
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,400	6,650	750	10.3	7,400	6,800	600	8.0
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	12,400	10,425	1,975	16.0	12,350	10,775	1,575	12.9
JENA (LASALLE)	6,400	5,675	725	11.5	6,400	5,850	550	8.7
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	17,650	16,575	1,075	6.1	18,100	17,275	825	4.6
TALLULAH (MADISON)	5,900	4,675	1,225	20.6	5,725	4,850	875	15.5
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,275	10,075	2,200	18.0	12,125	10,550	1,575	13.0
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	16,475	14,550	1,925	11.7	16,475	15,000	1,475	8.9
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	9,150	7,925	1,225	13.5	9,150	8,175	975	10.7
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	7,325	5,850	1,475	20.0	7,375	6,200	1,175	15.9
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,175	3,575	600	14.4	4,400	3,800	600	13.5
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	8,950	7,375	1,575	17.5	8,825	7,650	1,175	13.3
MANY (SABINE)	9,850	8,850	1,000	10.2	9,950	9,150	800	8.1
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	2,625	2,225	400	15.1	2,625	2,300	325	12.0
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	8,325	6,775	1,550	18.7	8,125	6,950	1,175	14.4
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	33,300	27,450	5,850	17.5	33,000	28,500	4,500	13.7
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	23,575	18,875	4,700	20.0	23,175	19,675	3,500	15.1
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	38,375	33,075	5,300	13.8	39,300	34,875	4,425	11.2
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,250	2,625	625	19.3	3,175	2,775	400	12.3
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,250	7,025	1,225	14.8	8,275	7,375	900	10.8
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	19,900	16,375	3,525	17.7	19,725	16,925	2,800	14.2
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	19,100	17,300	1,800	9.4	19,200	17,700	1,500	7.8
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	18,000	15,800	2,200	12.3	18,025	16,200	1,825	10.1
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	19,400	16,325	3,075	15.8	18,875	16,700	2,175	11.5
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	4,700	3,450	1,250	26.7	4,675	3,675	1,000	21.4
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,150	3,700	450	11.0	4,225	3,900	325	7.6
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,700	5,100	600	10.3	5,625	5,175	450	8.1

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change From December 1987	Net Change From January 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.5	46.2	44.7	- 0.7	+ 0.8
MANUFACTURING	3.3	3.4	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.0	2.1	2.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.7	1.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.1	2.3	2.1	- 0.2	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.1	11.5	10.9	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Retail Trade	8.9	9.3	8.7	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.3	2.1	- 0.2	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	3.5	3.7	3.4	- 0.2	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.6	2.6	2.5	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	11.3	11.2	10.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Health Services	5.0	4.9	4.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
GOVERNMENT	12.7	12.8	12.7	- 0.1	0
Federal	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	10.0	10.1	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
State	4.8	4.8	4.9	0	- 0.1
Local	5.2	5.3	5.2	- 0.1	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria labor market area was estimated at 45,500 for the month of January. This estimate was 700 less than December and 800 more than January of last year.

Employment in manufacturing was estimated at 3,300 during January. This estimate was 100 less than last month and 100 less than January of last year. The decline was in other durable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 42,200 during January. This estimate was 600 less than the previous month and 900 more than last January. Since last month, the major losses occurred in retail trade, and construction. Since last January, employment in nonmanufacturing has increased by 900. Industries showing gains include all major segments except, mining, construction, and government.

During the next thirty days, seasonal declines are expected to continue in retail trade, and outdoor related employment.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change From December 1987	Net Change From January 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	211.6	214.7	207.9	- 3.1	+ 3.7
MANUFACTURING	18.6	18.7	18.1	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Durable Goods	3.9	3.8	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	1.1	1.0	0.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	14.7	14.9	14.4	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	1.8	1.9	1.8	- 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.2	10.3	10.0	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	19.5	20.4	18.1	- 0.9	+ 1.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.4	10.1	10.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	50.7	52.2	50.2	- 1.5	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	11.4	11.5	10.8	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	7.7	7.8	7.5	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.7	3.7	3.3	0	+ 0.4
Retail Trade	39.3	40.7	39.4	- 1.4	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.3	13.3	13.1	0	+ 0.2
Banking	3.5	3.5	3.7	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	43.5	43.5	41.8	0	+ 1.7
GOVERNMENT	54.8	55.7	55.4	- 0.9	- 0.6
Federal	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
State and Local	52.5	53.4	53.1	- 0.9	- 0.6
State	30.1	30.9	31.0	- 0.8	- 0.9
Local	22.4	22.5	22.1	- 0.1	+ 0.3

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$548.21	$546.84	$505.33	43.2	43.4	42.5	$12.69	$12.60	$11.89
Petro-Chemicals	725.58	717.65	668.64	47.3	46.3	48.0	15.34	15.50	13.93

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,200 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA, at 211,600 during January, was down 3,100 from the revised estimate for December and up 3,700 over the comparable period a year ago.

Employment in manufacturing, at 18,600 was down 100 during the current period and up 500 over the year ago estimate. Durable goods were up due to more business in fabricated structural metal products and in miscellaneous fabricated metal products. Nondurable goods were down due to seasonal declines in sugar and confectionery products and in miscellaneous food preparations and kindred products.

Total nonmanufacturing was down 3,000 during January. Construction was down due to less business in general building contractors-nonresidential buildings, in heavy construction, except highway and street construction and in special trade contractors. Transportation and public utilities were up due to more business in local and suburban passenger transportation, in trucking, local and long distance, and in radio and television broadcasting. Wholesale trade was down due to less business in hardware and plumbing and heating equipment and supplies. Retail trade was down due to seasonal declines in department stores and variety stores, less business in grocery stores, apparel and accessory stores, and eating and drinking places. Government was down due to seasonal declines in state education and staff reductions in local government.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,200 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $548.21, up $1.37 from the revised December average. Average weekly hours, at 43.2, were down 0.2 hours, and average hourly earnings were up nine cents per hour. Less overtime worked at premium pay by lower paid workers contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents at 234,700 during January, was down 8,500 from the revised December estimate. Unemployment, at 26,500, was up 5,100 during the current period. The unemployment rate was 10.1 percent, compared to 8.1 percent for December and 11.8 percent for January a year ago. Baton Rouge's civilian labor force was 261,200 during the current period.

Unemployment is expected to have little change during the coming month while employment should show some improvement.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 3,875 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 670 applicants in jobs during December.

The consumer price index for December, 1987 for all urban consumers was 345.7 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 340.2 using base period 1967=100.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change From December 1987	Net Change From January 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	51.4	52.9	50.4	- 1.5	+ 1.0
MANUFACTURING	4.2	4.4	3.6	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.0	0	+ 0.8
Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.6	1.6	- 0.2	- 0.2
MINING	5.7	5.8	5.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	1.3	1.4	1.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	5.5	5.6	5.4	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Water Transportation	3.4	3.3	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.3	13.7	12.9	- 0.4	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.8	2.7	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	10.6	10.9	10.2	- 0.3	+ 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	3.0	3.0	2.8	0	+ 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
SERVICES	8.6	8.8	8.4	- 0.2	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	10.5	10.9	10.7	- 0.4	- 0.2
Federal	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
State and Local	10.1	10.5	10.2	- 0.4	- 0.1
State	2.7	3.1	2.8	- 0.4	- 0.1
Local	7.4	7.4	7.4	0	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux labor market area in January stood at 51,400, a level 1,500 below December. The decrease was mainly seasonal in nature and was spread through almost every industry division.

Manufacturing employment totaled 4,200 in January, down 200 from the previous month. The durable goods segment remained unchanged. Nondurable goods were down 200 over the previous month due to seasonal decreases in the seafood industry.

Mining eased downward due to adverse weather conditions. Construction was similary affected by winter weather conditions. Transportation and public utilities showed an overall seasonal decrease. Retail trade made normal downward adjustments following the close of the holiday season. Finance, insurance, and real estate displayed no significant change. Services exhibited a decrease largely in business services. Government was lowered by a temporary seasonal downturn in employment by state educational services.

Estimated unemployment in January rose to 9,900, up 2,200 from December. A decrease in employment due to seasonal factors contributed toward a higher percentage of joblessness. Unemployment presently comprises 14.1 percent of the labor force compared to 10.9 percent in December and 20.7 percent in January 1987. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 1,665.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to show a normal seasonal increase. Construction and mining will increase activity as weather conditions become better. Transportation will probably show a small gain. Retail trade will pull up from the winter low. In services, business services will likely push up. In government, educational services will add workers as the spring semester moves further along. Unemployment is expected to decrease as employment increases.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change From December 1987	Net Change From January 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	81.7	83.0	80.0	- 1.3	+ 1.7
MANUFACTURING	5.9	6.1	5.8	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.3	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.5	4.7	4.5	- 0.2	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.5	1.7	1.7	- 0.2	- 0.2
MINING	10.6	10.5	10.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	3.0	3.2	3.1	- 0.2	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	5.6	5.6	5.7	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	22.4	22.4	22.3	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	5.1	5.1	4.8	0	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.1	2.1	1.9	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	17.3	17.3	17.5	0	- 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.9	3.0	0	- 0.1
Food Stores	2.8	2.8	3.0	0	- 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.7	1.7	1.5	0	+ 0.2
Other Retail Trade	9.9	9.9	10.0	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.8	3.8	4.0	0	- 0.2
Banking	1.2	1.2	1.4	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	18.2	18.3	16.5	- 0.1	+ 1.7
GOVERNMENT	12.2	13.1	12.3	- 0.9	- 0.1
Federal	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
State and Local	11.3	12.2	11.4	- 0.9	- 0.1
State	4.3	5.3	4.2	- 1.0	+ 0.1
Local	7.0	6.9	7.2	+ 0.1	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette labor market area was estimated at 81,700, a decrease of 1,300 from the December 1987 revised figure but 1,700 above the January 1987 level.

Manufacturing decreased by 200 due to seasonal changes in the food and kindred products sector.

Mining increased by 100 from the previous month and is 300 above the level of January 1987.

Construction and government showed decreases due to seasonal fluctuations. Construction is down by 200 and government has declined by 900 from the previous month.

The unemployment rate in the Lafayette labor market area should remain constant for the next thirty days.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change From December 1987	Net Change From January 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.5	58.4	56.6	+ 0.1	+ 1.9
MANUFACTURING	11.1	11.1	9.4	0	+ 1.7
Durable Goods	2.6	2.6	1.1	0	+ 1.5
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.4	2.4	0.9	0	+ 1.5
Nondurable Goods	8.5	8.5	8.3	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.2	0	+ 0.1
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.6	7.6	7.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	3.7	3.8	4.5	- 0.1	- 0.8
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.0	3.9	3.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.6	14.7	14.0	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.9	2.6	0	+ 0.3
Retail Trade	11.7	11.8	11.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.2	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	4.0	4.0	3.6	0	+ 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.8	2.7	2.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Banking	1.1	1.0	1.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
SERVICES	11.4	11.3	10.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
GOVERNMENT	10.0	10.0	10.4	0	- 0.4
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	9.4	9.4	9.8	0	- 0.4
State	3.5	3.6	3.4	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Local	5.9	5.8	6.4	+ 0.1	- 0.5

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment for January in the Lake Charles labor market area stood at 58,500, an increase of 100 from the December 1987 revised figure, and 1,900 above the comparable period a year ago.

Construction declined by 100. Retail and wholesale trade dropped by 100 from the December 1987 level due to seasonal fluctuations.

Finance, insurance and real estate, services and transportation and public utilities each showed an increase in employment of 100 over the previous month.

The unemployment rate and employment figures should remain stable for the next 30 days.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change From December 1987	Net Change From January 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.1	54.4	54.0	- 1.3	- 0.9
MANUFACTURING	7.2	7.2	7.4	0	- 0.2
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.0	5.1	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.3	0.4	0.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	2.3	2.5	2.9	- 0.2	- 0.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.5	2.6	2.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.1	14.9	14.5	- 0.8	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade	3.7	3.8	3.7	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	10.4	11.1	10.8	- 0.7	- 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.4	2.9	2.7	- 0.5	- 0.3
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.6	3.5	- 0.2	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.6	4.6	4.4	0	+ 0.2
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
SERVICES	11.4	11.4	11.5	0	- 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Health Services	5.1	5.1	5.0	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	10.7	10.8	10.1	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.1	10.2	9.5	- 0.1	+ 0.6
State	4.9	4.9	3.6	0	+ 1.3
Local	5.2	5.3	5.9	- 0.1	- 0.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage employment, estimated at 53,100 workers, was 1,300 below the December estimate. This reflects the ending of the holiday season and adverse weather conditions in the area.

Manufacturing was unchanged over the month, but was 200 below the same period a year ago.

Mining showed a minimal decline of 100, slipping to 300 workers. Construction was down 200, partially due to adverse weather conditions. Transportation and public utilities lost 100 workers. Wholesale and retail trade, estimated at 14,100, was 800 below the December estimate and reflects the end of the holiday season. Government was down by 100 workers. All other segments were unchanged over the month.

Employment is expected to remain relatively stable over the next 30 days as unemployment remains high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change From December 1987	Net Change From January 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	509.9	512.3	505.6	- 2.4	+ 4.3
MANUFACTURING	42.8	42.9	41.5	- 0.1	+ 1.3
Durable Goods	21.5	21.2	19.9	+ 0.3	+ 1.6
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.2	1.2	1.5	0	- 0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Machinery	2.7	2.7	2.4	0	+ 0.3
Transportation Equipment	12.9	12.6	11.7	+ 0.3	+ 1.2
Ship & Boatbuilding & Repairing	9.2	8.9	8.0	+ 0.3	+ 1.2
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.7	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	21.3	21.7	21.6	- 0.4	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	6.0	6.4	6.4	- 0.4	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Paper & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.7	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.8	3.8	3.6	0	+ 0.2
Chemicals and Allied Products	3.9	3.9	4.1	0	- 0.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.6	4.6	4.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
MINING	14.6	14.7	14.4	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Oil & Gas Extraction	13.7	13.7	13.5	0	+ 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	21.7	21.8	22.0	- 0.1	- 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	43.5	43.4	42.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Railroad Transportation	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	12.5	12.3	12.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	134.3	136.4	134.0	- 2.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	31.4	31.8	31.6	- 0.4	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	17.9	18.1	18.2	- 0.2	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	13.5	13.7	13.4	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	102.9	104.6	102.4	- 1.7	+ 0.5
General Merchandise	13.4	13.8	14.5	- 0.4	- 1.1
Food Stores	18.8	19.1	18.6	- 0.3	+ 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	35.3	35.3	33.5	0	+ 1.8
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	34.3	34.1	33.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Banking	7.3	7.2	7.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
SERVICES	134.1	133.9	130.8	+ 0.2	+ 3.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	12.8	12.9	13.4	- 0.1	- 0.6
Health Services	36.0	36.0	34.4	0	+ 1.6
GOVERNMENT	84.6	85.1	86.6	- 0.5	- 2.0
Federal	16.0	16.0	15.9	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	68.6	69.1	70.7	- 0.5	- 2.1
State	18.7	19.0	19.8	- 0.3	- 1.1
Local	49.9	50.1	50.9	- 0.2	- 1.0

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$433.70	$432.14	$421.86	40.8	41.0	39.5	$10.63	$10.54	$10.68
Durable Goods	376.10	395.50	386.10	39.3	40.9	39.0	9.57	9.67	9.90
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	277.56	261.90	224.18	32.2	30.0	24.5	8.62	8.73	9.15
Fabricated Metal Products	373.26	449.16	420.21	38.8	42.9	43.5	9.62	10.47	9.66
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	352.51	366.62	372.00	38.4	40.2	37.5	9.18	9.12	9.92
Nondurable Goods	489.94	467.72	453.66	42.2	41.1	39.9	11.61	11.38	11.37
Food & Kindred Products	300.07	312.68	304.24	37.0	37.9	37.7	8.11	8.25	8.07
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	187.25	187.78	130.42	35.0	35.7	23.8	5.35	5.26	5.48
Paper & Allied Products	452.12	472.26	407.89	45.9	47.8	47.1	9.85	9.88	8.66
Printing & Publishing	366.68	376.94	350.76	39.9	40.1	39.5	9.19	9.40	8.88
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	731.45	711.07	716.99	46.5	43.2	44.7	15.73	16.46	16.04

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 29,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans LMA in January decreased to 509,900, a level 2,400 below December. The largest changes were seasonal in nature. Over the year, nonagricultural employment gained 4,300 workers, with increases in all industry divisions except construction and government.

Manufacturing employment totaled 42,800 in January, down 100 from the previous month. Durable goods showed an increase of 300 over the previous month. Ship and boat building and repairing was responsible for the increase due to more business. Nondurable goods were down 400 from the previous month with food and kindred products being most affected by seasonal decreases.

Wholesale and retail trade showed appreciable seasonal decreases in most segments of this industry. State and local government lost workers, partly reflecting problems in costs and funding. Construction and mining sustained a downward movement influenced by normal winter weather conditions. More favorably, transportation and public utilities adjusted upward, partly due to increases in local port activity. Finance, insurance and real estate edged up and services showed normal seasonal gains in private educational services.

Estimated unemployment in January increased to 57,900, a level 9,400 above December. The increase was mostly seasonal in nature. Joblessness presently comprises 9.8 percent of the labor force compared with 8.1 percent in December and 11.4 percent in January of last year. The January rate was lower than the state rate of 12.0 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 10,287.

Production workers in the area earned an average of $433.70 per week in January, up $1.56 from last month's average. Average weekly hours were 40.8, down 12 minutes from the previous month. Average hourly earnings were $10.63, up nine cents over the previous month. Compared to one year ago, weekly earnings are up $11.84 in manufacturing.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to show a small overall increase. Services will probably show seasonal gains primarily in private educational services. Transportation and public utilities may also show normal seasonal increases. Unemployment is expected to show a slight decrease as employment moves up.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	January 1988*	December 1987**	January 1987**	Net Change From December 1987	Net Change From January 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	132.2	133.3	130.2	- 1.1	+ 2.0
MANUFACTURING	17.1	17.2	18.2	- 0.1	- 1.1
Durable Goods	12.3	12.4	13.0	- 0.1	- 0.7
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.5	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Metals and Machinery	7.3	7.2	7.6	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.5	1.4	1.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.8	5.8	6.2	0	- 0.4
Other Durable Goods	4.6	4.7	4.9	- 0.1	- 0.3
Nondurable Good	4.8	4.8	5.2	0	- 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	0.5	0.5	0.8	0	- 0.3
Printing & Publishing	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
MINING	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	6.7	7.0	6.0	- 0.3	+ 0.7
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.1	8.1	8.5	0	- 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	33.0	33.3	31.8	- 0.3	+ 1.2
Wholesale Trade	7.9	8.0	7.9	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	25.1	25.3	23.9	- 0.2	+ 1.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.3	7.4	7.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
SERVICES	31.8	31.7	30.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.8
GOVERNMENT	25.0	25.4	25.0	- 0.4	0
Federal	4.8	4.8	4.5	0	+ 0.3
State and Local	20.2	20.6	20.5	- 0.4	- 0.3
State	5.9	6.0	6.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Local	14.3	14.6	14.4	- 0.3	- 0.1

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**	January '88*	Dec. '87**	January '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$431.20	$454.21	$509.22	39.2	39.6	42.4	$11.00	$11.47	$12.01
Lumber and Wood Products	211.39	213.86	227.55	33.5	32.8	37.0	6.31	6.52	6.15
Metals and Machinery	456.50	478.25	569.16	41.5	41.3	45.9	11.00	11.58	12.40
Food and Kindred Products	325.13	303.75	315.15	41.0	40.5	40.3	7.93	7.50	7.82
Printing and Publishing	342.13	335.22	306.46	35.9	35.7	31.4	9.53	9.39	9.76
Petroleum and Coal Products	580.65	557.06	524.12	49.0	46.0	46.3	11.85	12.11	11.32

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Shreveport LMA was estimated at 132,200, down 1,100 from the revised December total, and 2,000 more than the January, 1987 estimate. The number of jobs gained in nonmanufacturing during the past year were enough to offset the job decline in total manufacturing.

Manufacturing employment estimated at 17,100, dropped only slightly from 17,200 in December, 1987. During the past year, durable goods employment declined from 13,000 to 12,300, while employment in nondurable goods production fell from 5,200 to 4,800.

Total nonmanufacturing employment, estimated at 115,100, moved down from 116,100 in December, but 3,100 more than the January, 1987 estimate. During the past month job losses were mostly seasonal. Construction employment declined from 7,000 to 6,700. Wholesale and retail trade moved down from 33,300 to 33,000, while total government employment fell 400 below the December estimate.

The average weekly earnings were $431.20 for the 12,400 production workers in manufacturing in this LMA, down from $454.21 in December and $509.22 one year ago. The average weekly hours of 39.2 show a small reduction from 39.6 in December, and down from 42.4 in January, 1987. Average hourly earnings of $11.00 decreased from $11.47 in December and $12.01 one year ago.

The civilian labor force for this LMA includes 147,100 employed and 19,500 unemployed. The unemployment rate was 11.7 percent, compared to a national rate of 6.3 percent.

Total unemployment for the area will remain high, but should level off near the present estimate. The nonagricultural employment total will show little change during the next 60 days.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS UNIT, ROOM 220
P.O. BOX 94094
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9094

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

CONGRESSIONAL INFO SERVICE
ATTN: CHERYL WALDMAN
4520 EAST WEST HWY
BETHESDA, MD 20814

PLEASE RETURN THE LABEL FROM THIS REPORT WHEN REQUESTING ADDRESS CHANGES OR CANCELLATION